

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 07391 101344Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 ACDA-12 IO-14 L-03
NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 OES-07 SOE-02 DOE-15 SS-15
CEQ-01 AID-05 PM-05 /157 W
-----059922 101736Z /47

R 101224Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1516
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 7391

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH IN US
SUBJECT: PRESS VIEW OF INDO-US NUCLEAR RELATIONS

1. IN A RELATIVELY MODERATELY WORDED EDITORIAL IN ITS
MAY 8 EDITION, THE NADRAS "HINDU" WARNED THAT A CONGRESSIONAL
VETO OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION TO
ISSUE AN EXPORT LICENSE FOR FUEL FOR TARAPUR WOULD MEAN
"CLOSING THE DOOR ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COMPROMISE."
AFTER REITERATING THE STANDARD INDIAN ARGUMENT THAT
US LEGISLATION CANNOT NEGATE AN INTERNATIONAL CONTRACT,
AND DRAWING SUPPORT FROM WHAT IT SAW AS A SIMILAR
WESTERN EUROPEAN STAND, THE EDITORIAL DECLARED THAT A
US REFUSAL TO LIVE UP TO ITS NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY COMMITMENT
WOULD INVALIDATE THE INDO-US NUCLEAR AGREEMENT,
AT WHICH POINT INDIA COULD USE IT WISHED -- WITHOUT
SAFEGUARDS -- TARAPUR'S SPENT FUEL.

2. HAVING ISSUED ITS WARNING, THE EDITORIAL REMARKED
THAT THE US NON-PROLIFERATION ACT PROVIDES FOR "WELL-
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CHOSEN EXCEPTIONS" TO ITS RESTRICTIONS, AND REMINDED
ITS READERS OF INDIA'S VOLUNTARY RENUNCIATION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS, THE PEACEFUL CHARACTER OF INDIA'S NUCLEAR
EXPLOSION, AND THE FACT THAT THE NPT EXEMPTS NUCLEAR
WEAPONS STATES FROM INTERNATIONAL INSPECTIONS. "CONTINUING THE
SUPPLIES OF ENRICHED FUEL, THE US COULD
EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF CHARTING A NEW COURSE OF

NEGOTIATIONS IN SEARCH OF A FRESH FORMULA," THE
EDITORIAL ARGUED. IT CONCLUDED BY HIGHLIGHTING
ONE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE COURSE: A SUGGESTION ADVANCED
BY JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA THAT THE US AND
ANOTHER COUNTRY --"WHETHER IT BE JAPAN OR INDIA"--
POOL RESOURCES FOR THE PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT OF NEW
TECHNIQUES TO TAP NUCLEAR ENERGY.
GOHEEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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